

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
POLLUTION REPORT

## I. HEADING

DATE: March 28, 2001

SUBJECT: Ford Motor Clay Mine Landfill, Allen Park, Wayne County, Michigan

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POLREP 1 (INITIAL) Photos: 1) Area overview, 2) Impacted area

Start Date: March 27, 2001

## II. BACKGROUND

|                        |                                     |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Site No.:              | Pending                             |
| Delivery Order Number: | NA                                  |
| Response Authority:    | CERCLA                              |
| FPN:                   | NA                                  |
| NPL Status:            | Not on NPL                          |
| MDEQ Notification:     | NA                                  |
| Latitude/Longitude:    | 42:17:4.963 North/83:11:45.384 West |
| Start Date:            | March 27, 2001                      |
| Completion Date:       | Pending                             |

## III. SITE INFORMATION

A. Incident Category

(CERCLA) Emergency Response

B. Site Description

## 1. Site Location

The Ford Motor Clay Mine Landfill is located at 17005 Oakwood Boulevard, Allen Park, Wayne County. The landfill is an operating landfill servicing Ford Motor Company's non-hazardous waste. The facility is made up of 4 landfill cells, one closed area, and one trailer on a parcel of 243 acres. Historically the landfill accepted hazardous waste and

continues to find cyanide and phenols in their quarterly sample analysis. Ford Motor owns the surrounding properties.

2. Description of Threat

Information obtained by the United States Environmental Protection Agency - Emergency Response Division (ERD) from the National Response Center (NRC) that landfill leachate had been released from the property and possibly ran on to the interstate 94 embankment owned by the Department of Transportation.

IV. RESPONSE INFORMATION

A. Situation

1. Current situation:

All remediation of the property is sufficiently complete.

2. Site activities to date:

On March 27, 2001 the OSC Grunert and START responded to the call regarding the leachate release at 1600 hours. The contractor operating the landfill, Waste Management, met to explain the situation. A pump that had been pumping water from the site, into piping directed into a manhole and collected by the Detroit Water and Sewage Department, had failed. The water overflowed onto the surface. The system was checked and working properly at 0800 hours on March 25, 2001. The failure was observed at 0800 hours on March 26, 2001. Ford and Waste Management had taken proactive steps in mobilizing EQ to the site to aid in vacuuming out any surface water, excavating the possibly contaminated soil, and sampling the exposed area on the property. Waste Management provided quarterly analytical results showing high levels of cyanide and phenols. OSC Grunert and START walked along the property line and noticed damp areas. Waste Management acknowledged the possibility of contamination in this area. All parties agreed that further excavation was necessary along the property line including areas owned by the Department of Transportation. At 0900 hours on March 28, 2001 Ford Motor contacted the Department of Transportation who permitted access to their property for excavation. The fence along the property line was removed, standing water was again vacuumed, and soil was excavated up to six inches deep and approximately 100 feet long. Waste Management in agreement with OSC Grunert and START sampled areas of the excavated area to confirm all contamination was removed. Clean samples were also taken for background and to ensure the extent of the contamination. START conducted air monitoring with results of zero units at all time.

3. Enforcement

B. Planned Removal Activities

Roll-offs are awaiting removal from site by EQ.

C. Next Steps

Await analytical results.

D. Key Issues

None.